CLAIMS

1   1.   A method for exposing order status in a supply chain having disparate systems,

2   comprising:

3   receiving an order from a first trading partner system, said order initiating

4   a transaction;

5   linking a status reported by a second trading partner system

6   corresponding to said transaction, wherein said first trading partner system and

7   said second trading partner systems are disparate systems; and

8   reporting said linked status corresponding to said transaction, said status

9   formatted for a particular channel.

1   2.   The method according to claim 1, wherein said linking step comprises:

2   receiving an identifier for said status reported by said second trading

3   partner, said identifier corresponding to said transaction; and

4   linking said received identifier to an assigned unique identifier

5   corresponding to said transaction.

1   3.   The method according to claim 1, wherein said reporting step is responsive to a

2   query received from an access platform, said access platform accessible by

3   customers and said trading partners.

1 4. A method for exposing order status in a supply chain having disparate systems,

2 comprising:

3 receiving at a central exchange, an initial order for a transaction from one

4 of a plurality of trading partners having disparate systems, said central exchange

5 assigning a unique identifier for said initial order to said transaction;

6 linking an identifier identifying an activity status from said trading

7 partners for said transaction to said unique identifier; and

8 responsive to a request for information, providing said requested

9 information to a requester based on said linked identifier and said unique

10 identifier, said requested information formatted for a selected channel.

1 5. A system for exposing order status in a supply chain having disparate systems,

2 comprising:

3 a trading partner exchange (TPE) communicatively interfaced to a plurality

4 of trading partners, said TPE identifying an initial transaction and linking

5 corresponding trading partner transaction status information with said initial

6 transaction;

7 an access platform communicatively interfaced with said TPE, said

8 access platform formatting said transaction status information according to a

9 selected channel format; and

10 an access interface communicatively linked to said TPE, said access

11 interface facilitating communication with said access platform.

6. A machine readable storage having stored thereon, a computer program having a plurality of code sections, said code sections executable by a machine for causing the machine to perform the steps of:

    receiving an order from a first trading partner system, said order initiating a transaction;

    linking a status reported by a second trading partner system corresponding to said transaction, wherein said first trading partner system and said second trading partner systems are disparate systems; and

    reporting said linked status corresponding to said transaction, said status formatted for a particular channel.

7. The machine readable storage of claim 6, wherein said linking step comprises:

    receiving an identifier for said status reported by said second trading partner, said identifier corresponding to said transaction; and

    linking said received identifier to an assigned unique identifier corresponding to said transaction.

8. The machine readable storage according to claim 6, wherein said reporting step is responsive to a query received from an access platform, said access platform accessible by customers and said trading partners.

1 9. A machine readable storage having stored thereon, a computer program having

2 a plurality of code sections, said code sections executable by a machine for

3 causing the machine to perform the steps of:

4 receiving at a central exchange, an initial order for a transaction from one

5 of a plurality of trading partners having disparate systems, said central exchange

6 assigning a unique identifier for said initial order to said transaction, said

7 receiving step for exposing order status in a supply chain having disparate

8 systems;

9 linking an identifier identifying an activity status from said trading

10 partners for said transaction to said unique identifier; and

11 responsive to a request for information, providing said requested

12 information to a requester based on said linked identifier and said unique

13 identifier, said requested information formatted for a selected channel.